

Bulletin

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Excursion to Echo Sugar Loaf, Randalls Bay Saturday 6th February

About seventeen Field Nats attended the February trip to Echo Sugarloaf. We had visited in December 2018 but since then the summit track had been extended to make a full circuit. The new track section heads south from the summit and passes over another small hill before descending to meet with the existing track just above Randalls Bay settlement. It does not run along the rocky foreshore below Randalls Bay as one of the maps online suggests.



Field Nats atf Randalls Bay
Photograph: Amanda Thomson

The damp forest vegetation along the top of the new section has a diverse understorey while the downhill section is mostly drier forest with *Eucalyptus pulchella*,

Allocasuarina, some *Bedfordia*, and *Exocarpos* (native cherry). Heavy rain had fallen overnight making the clay on the way down prone to stick to our shoes in large clumps. In these conditions the descent in places became more like a downhill slalom, especially for those with walking poles, but those of us who did the full circuit all safely completed the course.

Early sightings on the walk included numerous common brown and shouldered brown butterflies, as well as small frogs at the pond with the viewing platform. At the summit there were large numbers of White's skinks (*Liopholus whitii*) and ocellated skinks (*Carinascincus ocellatus*), doubtless lying in wait for the flies and other insects "hilltopping" on the Sugarloaf. Although it is only a small hill Echo Sugarloaf is a prominent hilltop for insects as noted in a recent Simon Grove radio interview. Some other skinks and a large but rather lethargic tiger snake were also present at the summit. Not many orchids were out but a *Prasophyllum* found by Eddie attracted interest and there was also a lone *Dipodium* still flowering along the top of the new track section.

Echo Sugarloaf has an intriguing native land snail fauna of mostly wet forest species, but on this day I could only find a few dry forest tolerant species (*Caryodes dufresnii*, *Paralaoma hobarti* and "*Planilaoma*" *sitiens*.) Hopefully the interesting species were just too deeply hidden from the dry summer to have been dragged out by one night's rain and are still there somewhere, and have not fallen victim to the recent very hot summers.



Skink

Photograph: Els Wakefield



Frog

Photograph: Els Wakefield

The forecast for the day had been a strange mix of hot and wet but we managed to avoid being rained on in the sultry conditions. On return several members took advantage of the warmth for a swim in Randalls Bay.

Kevin Bonham



Bankia fasciata

Photograph: Lynne Maher

Plant species

Dicots

Acacia longifolia
Acacia melanoxylon
Acacia stricta
Acacia verticillata
Acaena novae-zelandiae
Allocasuarina littoralis
Aotus ericoides
Astroloma humifusum
Banksia marginata
Bedfordia linearis (E)
Bursaria spinosa
Carpobrotus rossii
Cassinia aculeata
Cassytha pubescens
Centaurium erythraea
Daviesia ulicifolia
Drosera spp.
Epacris impressa
Epacris sp.
Eucalyptus globulus
Eucalyptus obliqua
Eucalyptus pulchella (E)
Exocarpos cupressiformis
Geranium potentilloides
Goodenia ovata
Hypericum gramineum
Leptecophylla parvifolia &/or *oxycedrus*
Leptomeria drupacea
Leptospermum scoparium
Linum marginale
Lissanthe strigosa
Lomatia tinctoria (E)
Leucopogon parviflorus
Monotoca glauca
Notolaea linguistrina
Olearia phlogopappa
Olearia viscosa
Oxalis perennans
Ozothamnus sp.
Pelargonium sp.
Platylobium sp.
Pomaderris pilifera
Pimelea nivea (E)
Plantago varia
Pultenaea juniperina
Senecio linearifolius
Wahlenbergia sp.

E indicates an endemic.

Monocots

Bulbine glauca
Dianella revoluta
Dipodium roseum
Ficinia nodosa
Gahnia grandis
Juncus pallidus
Juncus sp.
Lepidosperma spp.
Lomandra longifolia
Luzula sp.
Microtis spp.
Patersonia sp.
Poa spp.
Prasophyllum sp.
Thelymitra sp.
Themeda triandra

Ferns

Pteridium esculentum

Orchid

Hyacinth Orchid, Dipodium roseum

Fungi

Heterotexes peziformis
Hexagonia vesparia, burnt specimens on tree trunk
Annabel Carle and Eddie Gall

Birds

Grey Butcherbird *Cracticus torquatus*
White-faced Heron *Egretta novaehollandiae*
Little Wattlebird *Anthochaera chrysoptera*
Swift Parrot *Lathamus discolor*
Pacific Gull *Larus pacificus*
Superb Fairy-wren *Malurus cyaneus*
New Holland Honeyeater *Phylidonyris novaehollandiae*
Forest Raven *Corvus tasmanicus*
Grey Fantail *Rhipidura albiscapa*
Green Rosella *Platycercus caledonicus*
Yellow-throated Honeyeater *Nesoptilotis flavicollis*
Silvereye *Zosterops lateralis*
Spotted Pardalote *Pardalotus punctatus*
Scarlet Robin
Striated Pardalote *Pardalotus striatus*
Laughing Kookaburra *Dacelo novaeguineae*
Brown Thornbill *Acanthiza pusilla*
Black Currawong *Stepera fuliginosa*
Black-faced Cuckoo-Shrike *Coracina novaehollandiae*
Crested Tern *Thalasseus bergii*

Els Wakefield

Reptiles

Eastern Three-lined Skink *Acritoscincus duperryi*
Ocellated Skink *Carinascincus ocellatus*
White's skink *Liopholis whitii*
Tiger snake, *Notechis scutatis*

Frogs

Possibly Brown Tree Frog *Littoria ewingii*, adults and juvenile

Invertebrates

Butterflies

Klug's Xenica *Geitoneura klugii*
Common Brown *Heteronympha merope*
Shouldered Brown *Heteronympha Penelope*

Moth

Maybe Oecophoridae: *Catoryctis subnexella*

Beetles

Soldier beetles Cantharidae, *Chauliognathus tricolor*

Flies (Diptera):

Rivellia cf. *viridis*
Tachinidae: Tachinid fly

Grasshoppers:

Brown Acrididae: *Austroicetes spp*
Green?

Mantodae

Praying mantis egg case

Millipedes

Diplopoda

Mites

Tombidiidae - Red Velvet Mites. Lots found along the edge of the track

Sawflies

Symphyta - unknown species

Wasps

Gasteruptionidae: *Gasteruption sp.* Also seen in roadside vegetation.
Evaniidae: Hatchet wasp
Vespididae: *Australozethus tasmaniensis* - Potter Wasp In garden vegetation on the road
Crabronidae: *Pison sp.*

Spiders

Pholcidae: Leaf-curling spider
Salticidae: *Jotus sp* female and male, maybe *Jotus rebus*

Amanda Thomson



Randalls Bay
Photograph: Els Wakefield



Common Brown Butterfly, *Heteronympha merope*
Photograph: Amanda Thomson



Klug's Xenica, *Geitoneura klugii*
Photograph: Amanda Thomson



On the track
Photograph: Amanda Thomson

Genevieve Gates

New Life Member



Genevieve Gates and her family joined the Tasmanian Field Naturalists Club in 1993 - she has been a member for 27 years and on the TFNC committee for 20 years including 10 years as Vice President and President.

Genevieve developed a passion for fungi and in 2008 she started the Tas Fungi (UTAS) website with David Ratkowsky. In 2009 she completed her PhD on "*Coarse woody debris, macrofungal assemblages and sustainable forest management in a Eucalyptus obliqua forest of Southern Tasmania.*".

She was on the organizing committee for the Australian Naturalist Network conference held in Hobart in 2014 and in 2014 launched the 1st edition of the Field Guide to Tasmanian Fungi with David Ratkowsky, followed in 2015 by the FungiFlip with David Ratkowsky and Rob Wiltshire (UTAS) and a 2nd edition (now on its 2nd reprint) of the Field Guide with David Ratkowsky in 2016.

In 2015 Genevieve started the Facebook pages for Field Naturalists of Tasmania (6000 members) and Fungi of Tasmania.

In addition, Gen has raised 3 boys, worked at Uni as a lab assistant, taught piano, and is rediscovering her love of the flute! She has learnt Spanish, travelled extensively often to give lectures, and taught in local and international fungi workshops and led fungi forays, often in Spanish speaking countries. She also acts as an international editor of mycological journal manuscripts and is an Honorary Professor at a University in Ecuador.

Gen's generosity with her knowledge has led to an increased awareness and interest in fungi and together with David, she has produced important publications the Club has been proud to be associated with. Gen has made a significant contribution to the Tasmanian Field Naturalists Club and the field of Tasmanian and international mycology and we were pleased to be able to make her a Life Member of this Club.

John Reid

A valuable and long term Field Nat.



The 2020 arrival of COVID-19 and the cancellation of our general meeting venue at UTAS (at least for now) has had a number of unexpected and sad consequences and one of them is the retirement of John Reid from the club. John has been a member of TFNC for 26 years. He joined us in 1994 and two years later he was elected the club's treasurer, a role he held for five years until 2000.

John sends his regards to those of you he knows and says 'I have had many very happy times with the Club, but I just do not have the vitality and stamina that I used to have. So, I really feel that now is time to go.'

John has always been an enthusiastic participant in the club's activities. At General Meetings his cheerful face would be found down the front often asking questions; he was a regular user of our library and often joined us afterwards for supper in the tearoom.

John's special interest is birds and on Club Outings he could always be found, binoculars in hand, scanning the trees and compiling the bird lists for some of the excursion Bulletin reports.

Our sincere thanks go to John for all that he has done for the Club over the years. We already miss seeing him at our meetings. The Committee decided to keep him in touch we will continue to send him our Quarterly Bulletin newsletter.

Annabel Carle

Excursion to Inala, Bruny Island

Saturday 13th. March

Thirty Field Nats met at Inala, on Cloudy Bay Road, Bruny Island, at 9.30am. Many had risen early to catch the 7.30am ferry, while others had stayed on Bruny on Friday night to be ready for the excursion.

Inala is a 1500 acre Land for Wildlife property and private Conservation reserve, owned by Dr Tonia Cochran who is also the principal guide. All twelve Tasmanian endemic bird species can be seen there, but as avian fauna is one of the specialties of Inala, the purpose of our visit was to survey other animal species and plants.



*The group at the start of the walk through the Jurassic Garden
Photograph: Eddie Gall*

On our arrival there was time to view the museum, and then we were given a familiarization talk from Dr Catherine Young and Dr. Tonia Cochran, after which we walked through the 5 acre Jurassic Garden. The garden informs and fascinates the visitor with a huge range of thriving plants demonstrating the Gondwanan connections. The photo of the group on the Jurassic path shows the lushness and beauty of the garden, which is fenced to keep out browsers, but was well populated with birds.

Exiting the garden, the group wandered along to the pardalote platform where several of the endangered Forty-spotted Pardalotes could be observed flitting about in the *E. viminalis* grove. Dr. Andrew Hingston told us all about the lifestyle and habits of this tiny bird, while the photographers desperately tried to fix one in their sights. Andrew explained about the perennial stoush between forty-spots and Striated Pardalotes, competing for nest hollows. At Inala at the moment, the forty-spots are prevailing!



Forty spotted pardalote
Photograph: Mick Brown

The group continued in our usual rambling style along the Ben Bullen walk, which crosses some areas of previously cleared land and then ascends through forest. We were accompanied by Tonia who was able to give a detailed history of the area, and meanwhile Field Nats were turning over stones to find invertebrates and recording fungi, bryophytes, lichens and orchids, as well as other vascular plants.

The outstanding invertebrate find was a family of tiny white scorpions under a rock. The walk ended on a plateau at a decommissioned boronia farm. The boronia plants have gone and the gentle slope has now been extensively taken over by coral lichen. A few of the members continued over the brow of the hill to see the view and then we returned to the Inala Centre for lunch in the shelter. By now it was raining lightly.

After lunch one party climbed another hill, and the remainder of us walked to part of the former farmland, now being replanted and rehabilitated. This is the site of the 'crazy grass', the name aptly given to it by the Inala guides. This crazy grass was unknown to many of us, but was eventually keyed out as *Tetraria capillaris*.



Eriochilus cucullatus and *Chiloglottis reflexa*
Photographs: Deirdre Brown

As the afternoon advanced, it became cold and drizzly, and there were a couple of heavy but shortlived downfalls. We reassembled at the centre and left in time to catch the 5.30 ferry back to mainland Tasmania.

Thank you to Tonia, Catherine, Andrew and the Inala crew for a wonderful day out on Bruny and for the opportunity to explore the property, the Jurassic garden and the museum.

The lists of what we found are published below.

Please note: Inala can only be visited via a tour, or by guests in the on-site accommodation. To find out more visit the website: <https://www.inalanaturetours.com.au/>



A 'clutch' of baby scorpions found under a rock
Photograph: Mick Brown

Inala Plant List

Mosses

Dicranoloma sp. *D. robustum*? (has single sporophytes)
Hypopterygium didictyon
Ptychomnion aciculare
Polytrichum juniperinum.
Sphagnum sp. *S. cymbifoloides*? Foliage pale and fairly lax
Thuidium furfursum
Usnea sp.
Wijkia extenuata

Anna McEldowney

Ferns and fern allies

Dicksonia antarctica
Gleichenia microphylla
Histiopteris incisa
Lindsaea linearis
Lycopodium deuterodensum
Pteridium esculentum
Selaginella uliginosa

Monocotyledons

Asparagaceae

Lomandra longifolia

Asphodelaceae

Bulbine sp. (*B. bulbosa*?)

Cyperaceae

Carex appressa complex.
Gahnia grandis
Isolepis cernua
Lepidosperma elatius
Lepidosperma laterale
Schoenus lepidosperma ssp. *lepidosperma*
Tetraria capillaris

Hemerocallidaceae

Dianella tasmanica

Iridaceae

Patersonia fragilis

Juncaceae

Juncus pallidus
Juncus gregiflorus
Juncus planifolius

Luzuriagaceae

Drymophila cyanocarpa

Orchidaceae

Acianthus caudatus
Caladenia carnea
Caladenia cracens
Caladenia alata
Chiloglottis gunnii
Chiloglottis reflexa
Chiloglottis triceratops
Cyrtostylis reniformis
Eriochilus cucullatus

Glossodia major
Prasophyllum sp. (in bud) *P. concinnum*?
Prasophyllum sp. in bud: poss. *P. lindleyanum*
Pterostylis melagramma
Pterostylis nutans
Pterostylis parviflora
Pterostylis pedunculata
Pterostylis tasmanica (Syn. *P. plumosa*)
Thelymitra rubra in bud
Thelymitra sp.

Restionaceae

Leptocarpus tenax

Typhaceae

**Typha latifolia*

Dicotyledons

Asteraceae

Bedfordia salicina
Cassinia aculeata
**Cirsium vulgare*
Olearia stellulata
Olearia viscosa
Senecio linearifolius ssp.?
**Senecio minimus*

Campanulaceae

Lobelia alata
Wahlenbergia sp.

Casuarinaceae

Allocasuarina monilifera

Cunoniaceae

Bauera rubioides

Dilleniaceae

Hibbertia procumbens

Droseraceae

Drosera auriculata
Drosera pygmaea

Euphorbiaceae

Amperea xiphoclada
Beyeria viscosa

Ericaceae

Epacris impressa
Epacris lanuginosa
Leucopogon collinus
Leucopogon ericoides
Monotoca glauca
Richea procera (E)
Stenanthra pinifolia (Syn. *Astroloma pinifolium*)
Sprengelia incarnata

Escalloniaceae

Anopterus glandulosus (E)

Fabaceae

Acacia verticillata ssp. *verticillata*
Acacia melanoxylon
Aotus ericoides
Daviesia ulicifolia
Gompholobium huegelii

Pultenaea juniperina
Pultenaea pedunculata
Oxylobium ellipticum
Gentianaceae
**Centaurium erythraea*
Goodeniaceae
Goodenia ovata
Lamiaceae
**Mentha pulegium (planted?)*
Lauraceae
Cassytha pubescens
Myrtaceae
Eucalyptus globulus
Eucalyptus obliqua
Eucalyptus viminalis
Leptospermum glaucescens
Leptospermum scoparium
Melaleuca squarrosa
Oxalidaceae
Oxalis corniculatus
Phrymaceae
Mazus pumilio
Pittosporaceae
Billardiera longifolia
Pittosporum bicolor
Polygalaceae
Comesperma volubile
Proteaceae
Banksia marginata
Lomatia tinctoria (E)
Persoonia juniperina
Ranunculaceae
Clematis aristata
Rhamnaceae
Pomaderris apetala
Rubiaceae
Coprosma quadrifida
Galium australe
Rutaceae
Zieria arborescens
Rosaceae
Acaena novae-zelandiae
**Rubus fruticosus aggregata*
Santalaceae
Exocarpos cupressiformis
Leptomeria drupacea
Thymelaeaceae
Pimelea humilis
Pimelea linifolia
Stylidiaceae
Stylidium graminifolium
Violaceae
Viola hederacea
** introduced*

Annabel Carle and Mick Brown

Macro Fungi

Ganoderma australe
Perenniporia ochroleuca
Phellinus robustus
Calocera guepinoides
Bisporella citrina
Hypoxydon placentiforme
Gymnopilus junonius
Hypomyces chrysospermus (parasitising Phylloporus sp.)
Russula sp. Purple cap
Trametes versicolor (old)
Scleroderma cepa
Boletellus emodensis group
Discinella terrestris (=Phaeohelotium baileyanaum)
Cantharellus concinnus
Cortinarius sp. Large brown (old)
Russula sp.
Fistulina spiculifera
Cortinarius sp. Creamy yellow-brown, dry cap
Laetiporus portentosus
Psathyrella sp.
Gloeoporus taxicola
Coprinellus sp.
Rickenella fibulosa
Stropharia semiglobata
Bovista sp.
Phylloporus rhodoxanthus
Entoloma sp. Black Cap, black stem
Fistulinella mollis
Austropaxillus muelleri
Laccaria sp.
Amanita unbrinella
Amanita grossa
Amanita sp. Large spikey cap (Possibly A. cf. effusa)
Amanita bruneibulbosa
Cortinarius sp. Creamy yellow-brown, dry cap
Ramaria sp. (possibly R. ochraceasalmonicolor)
Amanita sp. Grey-brown cap (button)
Boletus sp. Light brown cap, bright yellow pores
Myocacia subceracea (Syn. Phlebia subceracea)
Amanita sp. Grey scaly cap
Aphelaria sp.
Boletellus aff. ananiceps group
Phylloporus rhodoxanthus
Austroboletus niveus
Lactarius clarkeae

Richard Robinson

Invertebrates

Araneae

Wolf spider Family Lycosidae

Hymenoptera

Inchman Ant *Myrmecia forficata*

Lepidoptera

Emerald Moths *Mixochroa gratiosata*

Glyphipterix sp.

Fruitworm moths *Carposina* sp.

Coleoptera

Whirlygig *Macrogyrus* sp.

Eucalyptus Variegated Beetle *Paropsisterna cloelia*

Ecnolagria rufescens

Diptera

Diplogeomyza sp.

Tapeigaster brunneifrons

Snails

Native snails occurred fairly sparsely at Inala; the following were the combined finds of Kevin Bonham, Abbey Throssell, Bruno Bell and others:

Tasmaphena sinclairi

Caryodes dufresnii

Punctidae sp. "Micro Cripps"

Gratilaoma halli

Bonhamaropa sp. (undescribed and not allocated to a known undescribed species yet, but similar to other unallocated specimens from nearby)

Gadoropa sp. "Snug" (second Bruny Island record)

Cystopelta bicolor (third Bruny Island record)

Stenacapha hamiltoni

The introduced slug *Arion intermedius* was also seen.

One native species, *Prolesophanta* sp. "Francistown", and one introduced species (*Vitrea crystallina*) recorded by Otto and Bruno Bell at Inala on a previous trip, were not recorded on this trip.

Some photos from Inala



Tapeigaster brunneifrons
Photograph: Peter Croft



Mixochroa gratiosata
Photograph: Peter Croft



Austroboletus niveus
Photograph: Richard Robinson



'Crazy grass', *Tetraria capillaris*

BHL



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